THE FELICITY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH: And Her Times, With other Things;

By the

RIGHT HONORABLE

FRANCIS Ld *BACON*

Viſcount St *Alban.*

LONDON, *Octob:* 8.

Printed by *T. Newcomb*, for *George Latham* at the Biſhops Head in St. *Pauls* Church-yard. 1651.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

To the READER.

Reader,

HERE *is presented to thy view certain Tracts, containing divers* Arcana Imperii; *by two in their times eminent Councellors of Estate.*

The one is the Felicity of Queen ELIZABETH, and her Times, *by that Noble and learned Gentleman, the* Lord BACON, Viscount St. Alban; *one of the ſtanding Honors of the Law in general, and of* Grayes Inn *in particular.*

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THE FELICITY Of Queen ELIZABETH:

Writ,

By Sir Francis Bacon.

QUEEN *Elizabeth* in regard both of Nature and Fortune, the Pattern of Princes, and wonder of her Sex, of whose vertues and glories thereof Monks

 that

that live in the ſhade of Cloyſters, tart in ſtile, looſe in judgment, and not forgetful of themſelves, would be no ſufficient avowchers; this teſtimony belongs to men of note, ſuch as have ſtood at the helm of State; and been acquainted with the depth and tydes of Civil affairs: In all Antiquity the rule of a woman hath been very rare, in that rule the Felicity rarer, and the continuance of that Felicity rareſt of all; yet this Lady raigned full four and fourty years, and overliv'd not her Felicity; of which happineſs I purpoſe to ſpeak a little without running into praiſes, for praiſes are given by men, but happineſs is the gift of God.

I ſay the firſt ſtept of her Felicity,

ty in that she was raised to the
top of all from a private fortune,
for customarily to run the opini-
ons of men, to esteem that most
happy which happeneth most be-
yond hope and expectation. But
this is not all I mean, my aim
reacheth further, that Princes
brought up in Regal houses, to
hope of succession not uncer-
tain, are often depraved with soft
and licentious breeding, and be-
come immoderate in their raign.
From hence we finde the best and
most excellent Kings were raught
in Schooles of either fortune,
such as with us was *Henry* the se-
venth, and *Lewis* the twelfth a-
mong the French, both of which
about the same time (as the me-
mory yet remaineth) obtained a
Kingdom, not from privacy on-

ly, but onely from adverſity, whereof the latter flouriſhed in juſtice, and the former in wiſdom. Like to theirs was the condition of this Prince, whoſe hopes and beginnings Fortune brauled, but was thence forward conſtant to her till her ending.

For firſt, By birth ſhe had her turn by ſucceſſion, then ſhe was diſinherited, and at laſt laid aſide, and forgotten; in the raign of her brother her fortune was propitious and fair, which in her Siſters grew dark and dangerous: But yet ſhe was not ſuddenly taken from priſon to the Crown, leaſt that fret of remembrance might perhaps make her ſwell, but being firſt reſtored to liberty, ſhe afterwards obtained her claim without ſtir or competition, of whom God

God intending to make ſo rare a Prince, it ſeemeth he prepared her mind, and made her aſcend by the ſteps of her diſcipline to the Crown of her own inheritance: neither ought the calamity of her mother blaſt the dignity of her birth, eſpecially it being certain, that *Henry* the eight was rather led with love towards another, then indignation againſt her: The nature of which King, light in his loves, apt to ſuſpition, and in them haſty to blood, cannot avoid the note of poſterity. As for the accuſations made againſt her perſon in themſelves improbable, and leaning upon ſlight conjectures, they were not onely deteſted by the ſilent murmurers of thoſe times, but by Queen *Anne* her ſelf in that memorable and he-

roical ſpeech which ſhe uſed at the inſtant of her death; whereas preparing her ſelf to leave this world, and having gotten as ſhe thought a loving and truſty meſſenger, ſhe bids him deliver this meſſage to the King, that well ſhe ſaw his Majeſty would not give over his old wont in heaping new honours upon her: Firſt, from a Gentlewoman he had made her a Marqueſs, from thence his conſort and a Queen, and now finding no higher pitch of honour upon the earth, he was pleaſed to advance her in her innocency to the Crown of Martyrdom; which though that meſſenger durſt not relate to the King burning in new deſires, yet Fame (preſerver of truth) hath kept it ſafe for after ages.

More-

Moreover, I put no ſmall part of her Felicity in the meaſure and compaſs of her raign, not ſo much for being long, as becauſe it took up that ſpace of age, which is moſt fit to hold the raynes of publick government, for at five and twenty yeers (when tuition beginneth to ceaſe) ſhe began and raigned till threeſcore, and whereby ſhe neither felt the wrongs of a pupil under anothers arbitration, nor yet the inconveniences of an old decrepit age, private men feel miſeries enough in old age; but uſually it bringeth to Princes (beſides thoſe common griefs) ends void of glory, and diminution of eſtate, few attaining an old and unwealdy age without ſome loſs of reputation and ſtate. Take one exam-

ple in *Philip* the ſecond King of Spain, a moſt puiſſant Prince, and coming in ſwaying a Kingdom, who in his latter daies feeling the burthen and feebleneſs of age, helped weakneſs with wiſedom, ſubmitting himſelf to the courſe of mortal things; thereupon he reſtored ſuch places as had been won in, there he eſtabliſhed a Peace, and attempted the ſame elſewhere; that his affairs being all compounded he might leave them intire and illetigious to his heirs. The contrary in all things happened to Q. *Elizabeth* to whom fortune was ſo firm, that ſhe never ſuffered in flouriſhing or declining yeers any declination. And to ſeal up her rare Felicity, ſhe departed not this world till the Rebellions in *Ireland* were decided by

ſtroke

ſtroke of an happy battail, that there might be no blemiſh nor imperfection in her glory.

That is not alſo to be forgotten what kinde of People ſhe governed; had ſhe raigned in *Palmgrevis*, or over the milk ſops of *Aſia*, it would have been no marvel that a female Prince ſhould command effeminate Nations: But that in *England*, ſo Warlike and ſtout a People ſhould ſtir and ſtop at the beck of a woman, cannot be without great admiration; yet, for all this inclination of her people longing for war, or of their reſt impatient, ſhe was never hindred from loving and keeping of peace, which will of hers was ſeconded with ſucceſs, I reckon among her chiefeſt praiſes, for it not onely became

her sex, and eased her age, but was certainly a great comfort to her conscience; indeed about the tenth of her raign some tumults were attempted in the North, but they were quickly quenched, and she enjoyed ever after deep peace and security: which inward peace of her times, I judge was most glorious for two respects; the one that it shone the better by the flames and combustions of her neighbours; the other that notwithstanding the easiness of Peace, Armes wanted not their honour; whereby the prowess of the English Name was not onely kept up, but increased; hence many supplies were sent into *Scotland*, *France*, and the *Netherlands*, divers expeditions by Sea into the *Indies*, some

where

wherof gave the world a girdle, Fleets were rigged to infeſt the Coaſts of *Spain* and *Portugal*. The Rebels in *Ireland* were often tamed and ſuppreſſed, ſo that ſhe took a ſpecial care, that neither the courage of the people ſhould reſt, nor their fame ſuffer any diminution.

To this glory the weight of deſert was added; for by her reaſonable reliefs neighbouring Princes were preſerved in the Kingdom; and afflicted people (expoſed by their Lords, badly counſelled to the cruelty of their Miniſters, and devoted to the Shambles) received petition in their miſeries, whereof they feel the benefit at this day.

In her councels ſhe was no leſs kinde and helpful then in her ſupplies,

plies, whereby ſhe perſwaded the King of *Spain* to aſſwage his anger towards his ſubjects of the *Netherlands*, & reduce them to obedience upon tollerable terms, and often ſolicited the Kings of *France* to keep their faith, by not infringing the edicts granted to publick peace; in the firſt whereof, ſhe had regard to the ſtate of *Europe* in general, leſt the boundleſs ambition of *Spain* once broken out ſhould fuſe it ſelf over the Chriſtian world, and endanger the common liberty. In the ſecond ſhe had compaſſion of ſo many innocents that ſuffered fire and ſword with their wives and children, among whom the ſcum of the people armed and animated with publick power, were let looſe like wild beaſts to

devour

devour them, whose blood called for vengeance, and expiation upon that Kingdom which had made a league to commit inhumane murders and savage Laniations; in both which she omitted not do the office of a kinde, wise, and considerate Prince.

There is yet another cause which maketh the piece of her raign more admirable, namely, that it proceeded from her own wisedom and contriving against the disposition of the times; for if we consider her kingdom either cut into factions at home by difference of religion, or abroad standing as the strength and bulwork of Christendom against the monstrous designs and overflowing power of *Spain*, we shall finde that there was no fuel wanting for

a war, but she had provided for all, and gotten the reach both in Force and Councel; as that memorable event well declared, which for the happiness thereof surpassed all the actions of our age; for when that Navy called Invincible, whose sailes swelled with pride, and secure of victory, had entered the narrow Seas, to the fear and astonishment of *Europe*; it neither took a cock-boat at Sea, nor burnt a Cottage at Land, nor once touched upon the Coasts; but was miserably scattered and put to flight, and at last dashed upon against the Rocks, whilst peace remained in her confines, and no commotion was seen in the Land.

No less happy was she in escaping the plot of Traytors, then defeating

defeating the power of her enemies, for though divers conſpiracies were hatched againſt her life, yet all were either diſcovered or failed, neither did they work any jealouſies or diſtruſt in her mind, for ſhe kept not the more within, nor went the leſs abroad, nor increaſed the number of her guard, but ſecure and confident, and mindful more of her deliverance from danger, then of the danger it ſelf, ſhe changed nothing from the wonted courſe of her life.

It is not alſo unworthy to be marked the quality of thoſe times wherein ſhe flouriſhed, for ſome ages fall out to be ſo barbarous and ſilly, that it were no harder matter to rule a Nation of men, then to lead a flock of ſheep, but

ſhe

she was eminent in learned and refined times, wherein it was not easie to excel without singular parts of Nature, habituation of Vertue, and extraordinary indowments of Wit and Temper.

Besides, the raign of Women use to be obscured with marriage, whose worth and actions are commonly smothered up under the names and covert of their husbands: Those only that live unmarried have no partner in their glory, such was she, and this praise she deserved the more, because she was supported by no props but her own; no half brother, nor uncle, nor Prince of the blood was remaining to whom she might impart her cares, and receive assistance in her governing;

ing; yea, thoſe who ſhe advanced to higheſt honours, ſhe kept in ſuch a ballance and reſtraint, that every one laboured moſt to pleaſe her will, whilſt ſhe remained miſtris of her ſelf.

Barren indeed ſhe was, left no child behind her, which alſo happened to many fortunate Princes, *Alexander* the great, *Julius Ceſar*, and *Trojan* the Emperor; but this may be a diverſe conſtruction, and be diſputed on either part, ſome call it diminiſhment of happineſs, as if thoſe men were bleſſed above the conditions of men, who prove aſwel happy in their propagation as in themſelves.

Others make it the pitch of happineſs, which, ſay they, is then onely compleat, when it is exempted

empted from the wheel of fortune, and out of danger to be blemished by a degenerating issue.

She wanted not also those outward adjuncts of happiness, she was tall of stature, of comely limbs and excellent feature in her countenance, Majesty sate under the vail of sweetness, her health was sound and prosperous, and so drawing to her last without sense of age or misfortune, she had that which *Augustus* so much desired, a gentle and happy departure. The which is likewise recorded of *Antonius Pius* that good Emperor, whose death was like a dream or some sweet imagination: In all her sickness was nothing ominous, nor lamentable, nor uncouth to her kind, no

Sympto:

Symptom was ſeen ſtrange or noiſome, but all of ſuch a frame, as rather ſhewed the frailty of the corruption of humane nature; for ſome few daies before her death finding her body (ſeldom moiſtened with wine, or a larger diet) to ſhrink up with drineſs and cares which attend a crown, ſhe ſuffered ſome convulſion in her nerves, ſtill keeping (though in a ſlow and weaker meaſure) her ſpeech, motion and underſtanding, which is not ordinary in that diſeaſe: But this eſtate not long abiding, ſeeming rather the firſt ſteps to death, then laſt act of life; for when the powers of life are waſted, it is a wretched thing to remain in life; but by the ſlumber of ſenſe to haſte inſenſibly to death, is a clement and eaſie cloſe of life.

Add

Add this to the hap of her felicity, that she was not onely happy in her own, but also in the abilities of her servants; for she had such gifted men about her as perhaps this Island had rarely brought forth before.

But God when he favoureth Kings enlargeth the hearts of their ministers.

Two felicities yet remain that may be called *Post humus*, which are indeed higher and happier then all these that adorned her life: One of her successor, the other of her memory; such a successor she had, who albeit in regard of his masculine vertue and fair progeny, and access of a new Kingdom, might somwhat shadow or exceed her glory, yet he alwayes honoured her

name,

name, and gave a kinde of perpetuity to her deeds, for he made so small alteration in the orders he found established, or persons she had chosen, that so the son could succeed his father with greater silence, or less danger or disturbance of estate.

And concerning the fame and happiness of her memory, that is yet so fresh in the mindes and mouths of men, as taking life from her ashes wherein all envy is raked up; it seemeth to contend with the happiness of her life, for if any factious humor raised from dissent in Religion be yet buzzing abroad (though it seems by this time conjured down by consent of truth) as it is most foul and false; so it cannot be long lived, and truly I have gathered these notes

notes of Gods favour and her felicity for this ſpecial end, that malicious men ſhould be afraid to mingle their curſings (amongſt ſo many bleſſings of God.)

After all this, if any ſhould ſay as one did of *Caſar*, We hear of things whereat we wonder, but look for things which we might commend; I verily think that true admiration is certain exceſs of praiſe, and verily theſe felicities here deſcribed, cannot befal to any who are not viſibly ſuſtained with divine favours, and in ſome ſort have not ſet their lives in aim of glory; nevertheleſs, I will recount ſome few things concerning her manners, and of thoſe onely which might ſeem to lend occaſion unto baſe ſpeeches of contumelious men.

In

In her religion she was pious, constant, moderate, and could not away with innovations, her piety chiefly appeared in her works and actions, but it was also seen in the ordinary course, and conversation of her life; she was seldom absent from prayers in her closet, or at sermons and solemn service abroad; diligent in reading the Scriptures, well versed in the Fathers, and above all in St. *Augustine*; upon divers occasions she composed sundry prayers: when she mentioned God (though in common talk) added for the most part of Creator, casting, as I have often observed, her face & eies into a reverend form of humility: and whereat some have published, that she put off the thought of mortality, nor could abide to hear

hear of old age or death. It is moſt untrue, for many years before her end ſhe was not nice, often, and with much grace to call her ſelf old woman, and uſed to diſcourſe of her Tomb, and what inſcription would moſt pleaſe her, ſaying, She delighted not in long Titles, or ſhadows of glory, a line or two would be enough for her memory, which in few words ſhould only expreſs her name in her virginity, the time of her raign, the reſtoring of religion, & eſtabliſhment of Peace: True it is, that being once importuned to declare her ſucceſſor whilſt ſhe was yet in her full ſtrength, not unfit to bear children, ſhe would not endure her winding ſheet to be ſpread before her eies, and

yet

yet not long before her death, being penſive, and, as it were, muſing of mortality, as one came and told her, that divers places ſtood too long vacant in the State; ſhe roſe up ſomwhat offended, and ſaid, *She knew well enough that her place would not ſtand an inſtant empty.* Her moderation may perchance be doubted in matter of Religion, conſidering the ſeverity of thoſe Lawes ſhe made againſt the Papiſts: But herein we will produce ſuch onely things whereof we have certain knowledge, and made diligent ſearch; out of all queſtion, the meaning of this Princeſs minde, was this, neither to offer violence to the conſciences of men, nor to ſuffer her State to be diſquieted un-

der pretext of conſcience; out of which foundation ſhe judged firſt of all, that the toleration of two Religions in one hot heart-burning people, who from difference in mind might break out into blows, might be of pernitious conſequence to the State; thereupon at her entrance upon the Crown, when all things were full of ſuſpition, ſhe uſed the power of the Law, and committed ſome of the buſieſt, and moſt factious Prelates for the reſt of their Coat: ſo far was ſhe from vexing them with ſevere inquiſitions, that ſhe winked at their faults, and took them into her protection; This was the firſt ſtate of things: and although the interdiction of *Pius* the fift might have ſtirred up her anger,

ger, and made her resolve of a sharper course, yet she departed not from her nature, and changed little from her mildness; for, like a most wise and heroical Lady, secure of her peoples love, and that the Popish Faction could not stir at home without far assistance, she passed little for the claps of the Popes thunder: But about the three and twentieth of her raign things received an alteration, which change of time, was not complotted by design, but recorded in publick Acts, and cut as it were, in brass for perpetuity; Till that year, no great or heavy punishment was laid upon her Popish Subjects by the Lawes precedent; but now the vast projects and ambitions

of *Spain* for ſubduing of this Kingdom, began to be detected, whereof a principal part was, that a new fangled Faction ſhould be raiſed in the bowels of this State; which ſhould not onely be ready to receive a forraign invader, but alſo, (under pretence of the Roman Religion, and power of the Popes Bull,) ſhould abſolve her Subjects from their Faith and Allegiance, and prepare their Spirits for dangerous innovaſions. About that time *Ireland* was aſſaulted with open Armes, ſcandalous Libels were caſt out againſt the fame, and government, and the Queen; and all things ſeemed to ſwell up in preſage of greater motions. I would rather think, that many

of

of the Preists were made wicked instruments of other mens malice, then that all were privy to their Councel; yet this is true, and verified by sundry confessions, That almost all the Priests that were sent over into this Kingdom, from the three and twentieth to the thirtieth of this Queens raign (in which year that Popish and Spanish design was put in execution) had private instructions to divulge abroad, that this Estate could stand thus no longer; that within a while they should see a new face of things, and notable alterations; That the good of *England* was cared for by the Pope, and popish Princes, if they would not be wanting to themselves; yea, some

of the Prieſts were manifeſtly found guilty of thoſe Plots and Machinations, which tended to the ſubverſion of the State. And that which moved moſt the carriage of their ſecret Councels, was diſcloſed by letters intercepted, importing, that all the watchfulneſs of the Queen and Councel over the Papiſts, would be utterly deluded; for, albeit they laboured much, that no man of note or nobility ſhould be head of the Faction; yet, a courſe was taken to effect the work by men of meaner and inferiour rancks, whoſe mindes (though they knew not one another) ſhould be linked together by ſecret confeſſions, without need of Aſſembly.

Such arts were then uſed, and,

and, of late in a caſe (not unlike) reſumed; which (it ſeems) are familiar with thoſe men: Thus clangor approaching, like a ſtorme, put a Law of neceſſity upon the Queen.

It being now high time, that ſuch part of her ſubjects as were eſtranged from her love, impoiſoned without hope of cure, and yet grew rich withall in a private life, which freed them from publick charge, ſhould be kept under and reſtrained with Lawes of a more heavy nature: The courſe of all this miſery ſtill increaſing, was imputed to the Prieſts, who carried into forraign Countries, and fed by the crums of ſtranger Princes (profeſſed enemies to this State) were brought up onely in ſuch

places where the name of the Queen their Soveraign was never heard of, but as an heretick and excommunicate perſon, torn with curſes and excommunications; If theſe men were not inticed with treacherous deſignes, they were ſurely known to be familiar with ſuch as were; who with the venom of their arts, had pernitiouſly depraved the minds of many Papiſts, and ſowred their whole Lump with a new malignant livery, which was ſweeter and leſs timerous before.

Now therefore, no ſafer remedy could be found, then to debar theſe unnatural men from all entrance into this Kingdom; which was likewiſe decreed under penalty of their lives

lives, in the seven and twentieth of her raign.

Not long after when the tempest rose and fell upon this land; the event well declared what love remained in these mens brests towards their deareſt Country; for, so were they blinded with hate and envy, that they rested neither night nor day, binding themselves with Vowes and Sacraments, to bring it into bondage of a foraign Enemy.

Hereupon, albeit the clouds of *Spain* (which caused this severity) were blown over, and vanished; yet, the remembrance of danger passed, struck deep in the mindes of men; and, because it would have been accounted levity to have repealed

thoſe Lawes, and unfaithfulneſs to neglect them once eſtabliſhed; The Queen was ſo drawn with weight of affairs, that it was no more in her power to ſet them in that former eſtate wherein they were before, in the twenty third of her raign.

Hereunto may be added, that although there was not wanting the induſtry of divers Miniſters to increaſe her exchequer; and juſtice of others to urge exemption of the Lawes, wherein they onely ſaw the publike ſafety to conſiſt; yet, conſtant to her natural clemency, ſhe debated the keenneſs of their edge, that the Prieſts who ſuffered death were very few in regard of their exceeding number.

Theſe

These things I rehearse, not, as points of her defence, this cause needeth no justification; whereas both the safety of this Kingdom required no less, and the whole course of this severity, fell far short of the bloody examples amongst the Papists; which rather flowed from pride and malice, then any necessity: But I am not forgetful of my first affection, having by this time sufficiently shown that this Prince was moderate in cause of Religion, and if any sharpness happened therein, that it proceeded not from her nature, but from the iniquity of the times.

Of her great care and constancy in true religion, this may be a certain Argument, that al-

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beit popery had been eſtabliſhed by much power and ſtudy in her ſiſters raign, and had taken deep root by time, and was ſtill confirmed by the writ and aſſent of all in Authority; yet, ſince that it neither agreed with the word of God, nor the primitive pureneſs, nor her own conſcience, ſhe pluck'd it up, with little help, and aboliſhed it with great courage and reſolution; which was not done upon a raſh impetuous fancy, but with maturity and advice; whereof (among many other things) we may take a conjecture by an anſwer ſo made upon a by-occaſion.

In the beginning of her raign, when Priſoners (as the manner is) were releaſed, for a boon of her

her new inauguration; A certain Courtier, who by cuſtome had taken up a boldneſs of ſpeech, and jeſtingly waited for her as ſhe went to Chappel, when, either of himſelf, or ſet on by wiſer men, he put an humble petition, crying out aloud withall, *That yet there remained four or five honeſt Priſoners, who were unjuſtly detained; beſeeching he Majeſty to ſet them at Liberty; and they were the four Evangeliſts, and Saint* Paul *the Apoſtle, who had been long ſhut up in a ſtrange language, as in a Priſon, and kept from converſing among the people*; to whom ſhe wiſely anſwered, *That full inquiry ſhould be made of themſelves, whether they would be releaſed, yea, or no:* whereby

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ſhe put off a ſudden queſtion, with a ſuſpended anſwer; and ſtil reſerved the intereſt of things in her own freedom and deciſion.

In which buſineſs, ſhe proceeded not by peeces, or with trepidation, but in a grave and ſetled order: Firſt, calling the Synods to conference, and the States to Parliament; and then within compaſs of one year, ſo reformed Eccleſiaſtical affairs, that till her dying day ſhe departed not a whit from the conſtitution then determined; yea, ever after her cuſtome was to warn almoſt every Parliament when it ſate, that nothing ſhould be changed in the right, and diſcipline of the Church; and thus far concerning Religion.

Now

Now to leave theſe ſadder things; if any man ſhould think it a lightneſs that ſhe ſuffered her ſelf to be courted and wooed, and refuſed not to be ſeen upon the ſcene of Love, even beyond the condition of her Age; this, if it be gently conſtrued, wanted not alſo a ſhare in admiration; for it ſoundeth unlike thoſe old Stories of a Maiden Queen living in *Elizian* Iſlands, from whoſe Court none was debarred that uſed fair accoſtment, and no laſciviouſneſs in love; But if it be ſeverely ſcanned, then greater is the wonder; for, albeit that we often ſee, that a State is looſened by the looſeneſs of the Prince; yet, theſe delights ſhe uſed with ſuch a curb, that they little dim-

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med her fame, leſs her Majeſty, and ſoftned the vigour and diſpenſation of her State nothing at all.

But to ſhut up my diſcourſe, the Prince was certainly good and vertuous, and ſo ſhe deſired to ſeem, ſhe hated vices, and took the way to fame, by that of honour: Whilſt I am upon her vertues, I cannot forget one paſſage, when letters were written to her Ambaſſadors in *France*, to deliver ſome private meſſage to the Queen-Mother then of *Valois*; wherein her Secretary, as it were, to curry favour, had inſerted this clauſe, that the Ambaſſador ſhould ſay, *They two were two ſuch Queens, ſo verſed in Soveraign Arts, and ſeen in politick affairs,*

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as no Kings nor men in the world went beyond them; She misliked the assotiation, and commanded it to be blotted out, saying, *The Arts she had learned were of a better stamp, and the principles of a far higher nature, whereby she ruled her people.*

She was not puffed up with the length of her raign, although she was long a Queen; for, if any had told her fitly in discourse, *That the world would have taken notice of her admirable parts, though she had lived in some mean estate*; she would have been well pleased with such insinuations; so much she desired that her vertue should stand alone unbeholding to her fortune for praise.

But if I should enter into her mortal

moral or regal commendations, or recite the Roll of her vertue, and rank them in their proper place and light, befitting so rare a Prince, which should slide into the story of her life, it would require greater leasure and a larger vein. I have onely summoned up these two parcels briefly, and sincerely, as I could; for, it must be confessed, That no Commender can be found sufficient for this Prince, but onely time, which, from the first beginning, never produced in all her sex any one like to her for Civil Government and Administration of Affairs.

FINIS.

THE APOLOGY OF *FRANCIS BACON*;

In, Certain IMPUTATIONS concerning the late Earl of *ESSEX*.

Written to the Right Honorable his very good Lord, the Earl of *Devonshire*, Lord Lieutenant of IRELAND.

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